



Vision Area 1: Healthy Babies

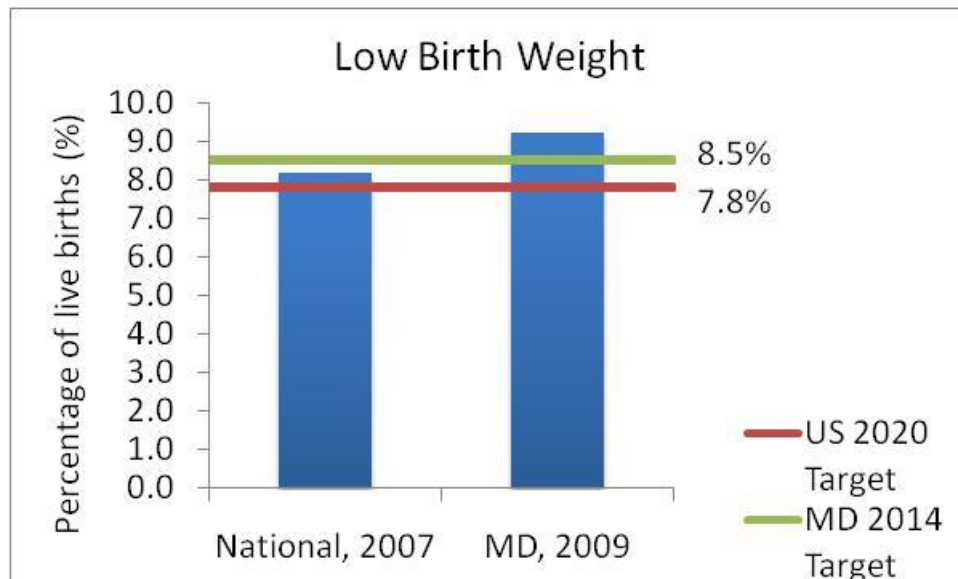
<http://dhmh.maryland.gov/ship/visions/vision1/objective3.html>

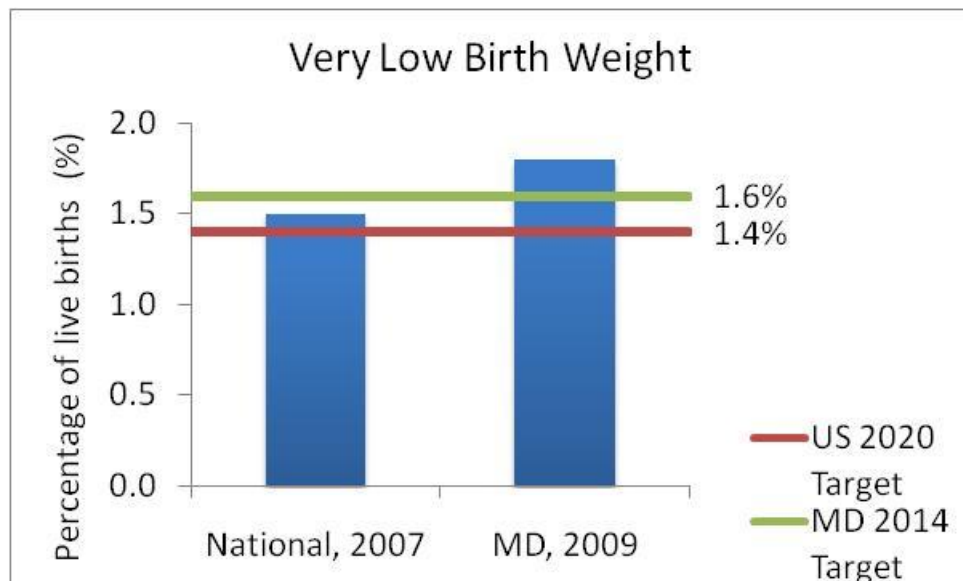
Objective 3: Reduce low birth weight (LBW) & very low birth weight (VLBW)

Babies born at low and very low birth weights are at increased risk for serious health consequences, including disabilities and death. Low birth weights are those live births where infants weighed less than 2,500 grams. Very low birth weights are those live births where infants weighed less than 1,500 grams. In 2008, Maryland was higher than the national average of 8.2% for LBW; Alaska had the lowest percentage of LBW at 6.0%.

Statistics and Goals

Measure: Percentage of live births that are low birth weight (LBW) and very low birth weight (VLBW)





Low birth weight is defined as a birth weight of 2500 grams or less and very low birth weight is defined as a birth weight of 1500 grams or less.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics and Maryland Vital Statistics Administration

National Baseline	Current MD Baseline	Healthy People 2020 Target	MD 2014 Target
8.2% LBW	9.2% LBW	7.8% LBW	8.5% LBW
1.5% VLBW	1.8% VLBW	1.4% VLBW	1.6% VLBW

Go to Healthy People 2020 Objective

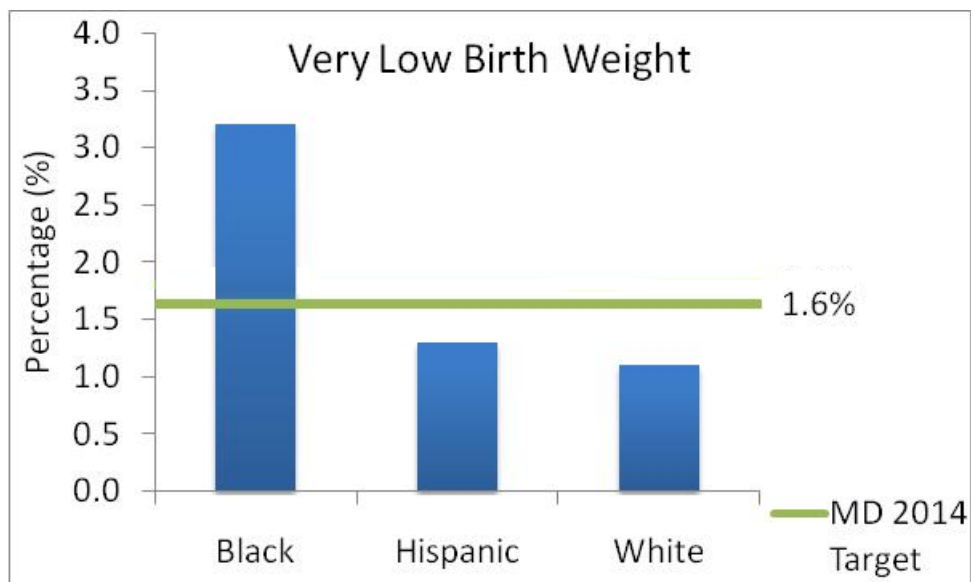
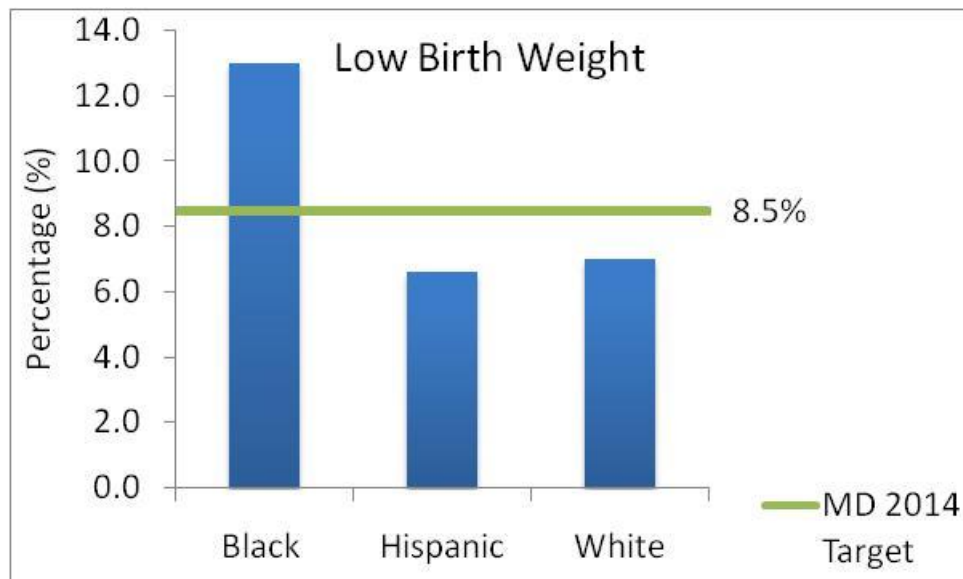
Detailed data information

[link to http://healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicId=26#Objective 3, additional data](http://healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicId=26#Objective 3, additional data)

[link to VA1,](#)

Disparities in Maryland

Percentage of live births that are low birth weight (LBW) and very low birth weight (VLBW) by race/ethnicity



Source: Maryland Vital Statistics Administration, 2009 - Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on the birth certificate. Data for persons of Hispanic origin are included in the data for each race group according to the mother's reported race.

Black	Hispanic	White	MD 2014 Target
13.0% LBW	6.6% LBW	7.0% LBW	8.5% LBW
3.2% VLBW	1.3% VLBW	1.1% VLBW	1.6% VLBW

[For more disparities information...](#)